



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL

THE ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

House Bill 6459: AAC RENEWABLE RESOURCE GENERATION

March 1, 2011

TESTIMONY OF CHAIRMAN KEVIN M. DELGOBBO

The Department of Public Utility Control, (Department) appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill No. 6459. House Bill No. 6459 would allow each electric distribution company (EDC) in the state to purchase, own or operate a Class I or Class II renewable generating facility. The Bill further provides that the capacity of such facility may not exceed 5 MW for each company and that costs may be recovered through rates.

The Department does note that the state's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) has identified that there does not currently exist the need to procure any additional capacity resources in the near term. However, the Department views this proposal as a potential method to enhance the state's ability to meet its Renewable Portfolio Standards, (RPS) through in-state resources.

The Department does respectfully ask the Committee to consider what specific mechanisms and criteria it would apply when approving any such project. For example, it is unclear whether this proposal anticipates applications by the EDCs to the Department for review and approval or if applications will be the result of an RFP process. As the Committee is aware, there are a variety of resources that qualify as a Class I or Class II facility, each with its own cost and characteristics. Therefore, if it is the intent of this bill that such projects are the result of an RFP process, the Committee may wish to consider enumerating which specific criteria it would like the Department to apply when evaluating applications under this proposal. For example, the Department observes that section two of raised bill 1079 contains provisions detailing specific processes and criteria for approving such applications.

The Department thanks the Committee for this opportunity to provide testimony and looks forward to working with the Committee on this matter.